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GRIZ TURN IN 8 LIFETIME BESTS AND 11 SEASONAL  
BESTS IN WASHINGTON STATE TRIANGULAR

5/8/78

sports state + Big Sky + track supp. rosenthal/jg

MISSOULA--

The University of Montana men's track team turned in 8 lifetime bests and 11 seasonal bests in Saturday's Washington State Triangular track and field meet in Pullman.

WSU easily outdistanced Montana and Weber State. The Cougars downed UM, 154-56 and beat Weber State 134-33. However, in the all-important dual between UM and WSC, the Grizzlies beat their conference opponents, 95-47.

"We really had a super day against Washington State and Weber State," UM Men's Track Coach Harley Lewis said. "Even though we only won two events, we had several seconds and thirds. I think we performed very well against the number one dual track team in the nation."

Gene Popovich was the lone Grizzly to win an event. The senior from Butte won the shot put with a toss of 54-2½. Last week he threw a seasonal and conference best of 55-1.

The UM mile relay team of Mike Andrews, John Roys, Dale Giem and Ed Wells took the only other first with a 3:14.5 effort, a seasonal best. Washington State won 16 of 18 events.

Freshman Geoff Grassle of Missoula had two second places, running a lifetime best of 10.1 in the 100 meters (the course was three yards short) and a 21.5 in the 200 meters, to finish runnerup to WSU athletes in both events.

Dale Giem bettered his conference leading mark in the 400-meter hurdles, finishing third in 52.3. Monte Solberg of Westby posted the best javelin throw in the Big Sky with a 220-4 effort, good for second place. Other second place finishers for UM were Ed Wells in the 400 meters, Scott Browning in the 1,500 meters, Steve Morgan in the high jump and Bill Johnson in the triple jump.

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"Except for the long distances, Washington State did not beat us by great amounts in the other events," Lewis said. "Our team really did well."

The Grizzlies will see their last competition of the season before the Big Sky Conference meet in Pocatello, Idaho, May 19 and 20.

This Thursday, May 11, the Grizzlies will compete in the Montana Twilight meet at Dornblaser Stadium. The entire squad will run in this meet. Unattached runners are also invited to compete.

"The Montana Twilight is the last chance for individuals to insure a spot at the conference meet," Lewis said.

The meet is designed to give UM athletes an opportunity to get their times down for the conference meet.

Each Big Sky team is allowed to enter 25 athletes for the Big Sky meet. Lewis said he has about 30 athletes vying for those spots.

The final meet before the Big Sky is the Northwest Relays in Seattle. The afternoon meet takes place on Saturday, May 13. Lewis said he will take ten athletes to that meet. Other competing teams include Washington, Washington State, Oregon, Oregon State, Idaho and several smaller schools.

Montana's seasonal bests are listed below.

100 meters---Geoff Grassle, 10.89 (1st); Tom Kaluza, 10.9 (6th).  
 200 meters---Geoff Grassle, 21.5 (2nd); Ed Wells, 21.9 (3rd).  
 400 meters---Ed Wells, 47.59 (1st); Mike Andrews, 47.6 (2nd).  
 800 meters---Carey Wallace, 1:52.3 (3rd); Brad Sheldon, 1:54.48 (3rd).  
 1,500 meters---Scott Browning, 3:55.1 (1st); Rob Reesman, 3:58.6 (3rd).  
 3,000-meter steeplechase---Dave Hull, 9:28 (6th); Jim Entry, 9:49.3 (3rd).  
 5,000 meters---Dave Gordon, 14:32.6 (NP); Dave McDougall, 14:42.8 (5th).  
 10,000 meters---Dave Gordon, 31:22.05 (2nd); Dean Behrman, 31:24.59 (3rd); Tom Raunig, 31:26 (NP).  
 110-meter high hurdles---Tim Fox, 14.4 (4th).  
 400-meter hurdles---Dale Giem, 52.3 (3rd); Tim Fox, 53.86 (2nd); Russ Schmittou, 54.1 (4th).  
 Triple jump---Bill Johnson, 46-11½ (4th); Joe Valacich, 43-9½ (5th).  
 High jump---Steve Morgan, 6-9½ (2nd); Joe Valacich, 6-8¼ (2nd).  
 Long jump---Joe Valacich, 23-1 (1st); Bill Johnson, 21-8¼ (5th).  
 Pole vault---Carl Marten, 15-0 (3rd).  
 Javelin---Monte Solberg, 220-4 (2nd); Chris McFaul, 198-9 (2nd); Paul Torgison, 193-6 (4th).  
 Shot put---Gene Popovich, 55-1 (1st); Terry Falcon, 47-6½ (3rd).  
 Discus---Brett Barrick, 138-0 (6th).

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440-yard relay---UM (Andrews, Grassle, Giem, Wells), 41.56 (1st).  
400-meter relay---UM (Andrews, Grassle, Kaluza, Wells), 42.0 (2nd).  
Mile relay---UM (Andrews, Roys, Giem, Wells), 3:14.5 (1st).  
1,600-meter relay---UM (Rogers, Andrews, Giem, Wells), 3:16.5 (1st).

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